Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. K. Mathur, Judge, High Court of Allahabad-Member.

Shri N. N. Vohru, Secretary, Department of Justice—Member.

Shri N. ft. Ranganathan, Secretary, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances md Pensions—Member.

Shri *K.* Venkatesan, Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finnic —Member. f

• Shri M, S. A. Siddiqui, Registrar General, Supreme Court of India— Convener.

*Second Meeting:* The second meeting was held on 13th August, 1993 at 5.00 p.m. in the Judges' Lounge in Supreme Court of India, New Delhi. The following members were present:

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. R. Pandian.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. C. Agarwal.

Hon'We Mr. Justice M. K. Mukherjee.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. K. Mathur.

Dr. P. C. Rao, Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs.

Shri K. Venkalesan. Secretary, Department of Expenditure Ministry of Fin-ance.

Prof. N- R. Madhava Menon, Director, National Law School of India, University of Bangalore.

Shri . M.S.A. Siddiqui, Registrar General. Supreme Court of India.

**Merger of Upton and Brooke Bond**

3184. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Lipton and Brooke Bond companies have merged With each other;

(b) If so, what are the detai'is thereof; and the terms and conditions worked out by them;

(c) whether Government's prior appro-. a! /permission was obtained;

(d) if so. under what inovision of the Law -

(e) whether the merger will encourage monopolistic tendencies ami will hurt other competitors as well as consumers; :nd

*(f)* if so,the- details thereof and Gov ernment's reaction thereto and the steps '. "Overnment propose to take to put a check on such tendencies of big compa nies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The mergers/amalgamation of Companies require the approval of the respective High Courts under Section 391|394 of the Companies Act, 1956. Sections 23 and 24 of the M.R.T.P. Act, The amalgama'ion of Lipton Limited with Brooke Bond India Liml-i led under Section 391/394 of the Companies Act, 1956 was approved on 15-12-1993 by Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta. As per scheme of amalgamation, the same is effective from 1-7-1993 and the transferee company shall allot the shareholders of Lipton India Limited 9 equity shares of Rs. 10/- each of M/s Brooke Bond India Limited as fully paid up for every 10 equity shares of Rs. 10/- each held by them in Lipton India Limited. The approval of the Cen-ira! Government for amalgamation is not required under the Companies Act, 1969, have been omitted by the M.R.T.P. (Amendment) Act, 1991, with effect from 27-9-1991. The M.R.T.P. Commission is, however, empowered to look into the allegations relating to the monopolistic restrictive and unfair trade practices under he provisions of the said Act,

**Merger of Hindustan Lever Ltd, an TOMCO**

3185. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINIS-TER be pleased to state: